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# Peonies

that are different



One of the finest new Auten seedlings.  
Pale lavender pink, 8 inches in diameter.

Your Own Exclusive Variety  
Named Auten Originations  
Standard Varieties

1926

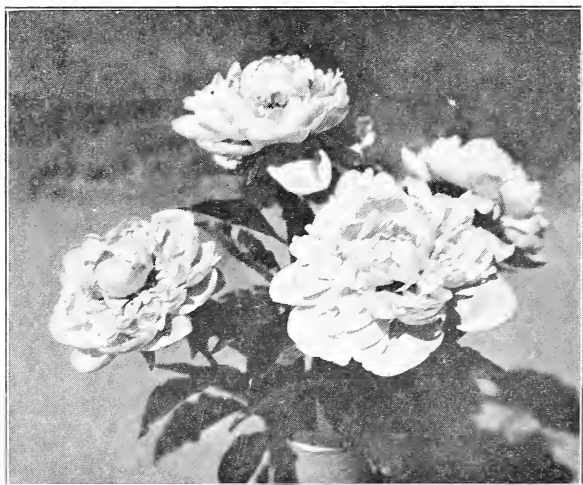
EDWARD AUTEN, JR.  
PRINCEVILLE, ILLINOIS

## Terms

Cash with order or satisfactory reference.

All roots offered subject to prior sale, and to being in satisfactory condition when dug. I do not send out roots known to be infected with nematodes or root gall, and believe my roots are unexcelled in this most important respect.

Shipment of roots is made in the fall only, as soon after August 15th as weather and other conditions allow, and any time up to November 1st. Early fall planting is strongly recommended.



"Humoresque" Auten, 1925

## My Laboratory

My "Peony Laboratory" is a planting of about two acres, and is the largest that I know of in the state of Illinois where the development of new varieties is given first consideration.

State Hard Road No. 30 runs past my fields, and visitors are welcome in blooming season, usually May 23d to June 10th. Here you may see 250 choice named kinds, as well as thousands of seedlings, all different. Princeville is 24 miles northwest of Peoria, 148 miles from Chicago. All my plants are grown in extra fine black loam soil, without the feeding and pushing which a peony so resents. At the 1924 National Peony Show I took 10 firsts, 2 seconds and a third with 14 entries, and honorable mention on HUMORESQUE, one of my new varieties. This year, I took five firsts and four seconds at the Mid West Peony and Iris Show at Des Moines which gave me sweepstakes and Silver Medal of the American Peony Society, also honorable mention on two seedlings. At the 1926 National Show I displayed a few very late seedlings, and one of these was one of the most admired blooms out of 600 seedlings shown by notable hybridisers of the United States.

## Your Own Exclusive Variety

I have felt for some years that there must be many people who would take pleasure in owning a beautiful peony of which they had all the plants; one different in some few or many points from those varieties now in commerce and scattered all over our land. Therefore I have worked out a new scheme of selling peonies, and I believe I am the first originator and hybridiser to offer you in peonies what you get from an artist when you buy an oil painting, from the Paris dressmaker when you buy a new creation, from the master jeweler when you buy a piece of hand wrought silverware or unique setting for precious stone.

The desire to own "something different" influences us in many ways. We also like something new; we do not re-read the old books year after year, but seek out new ones. For a few years I got a real thrill from that fine peony "Mons. Jules Elie", but now I want something to furnish new interest, something which will not greet me from every garden I visit, and it is my own deep interest in the peony which has thus led me into a new field.

New varieties of Peonies are obtained by planting seed. Five years later they bloom, no two plants alike, many inferior, many good, some very good, and a few extra good. Using seed only from the finest kinds, I have at least 6500 seedling plants. This year I tagged and took notes on 1200 seedlings as they bloomed, five and six year old clumps large enough to divide into from three to six good divisions each. It has often been said that an outstanding, extra choice new variety is worth one thousand dollars, but in any large lot of seedlings will be found many which are beautiful, interesting because new and different, and still much finer than any other perennials which have a place in our gardens.

I have therefore decided to offer some of these new seedlings at prices from \$10.00 and up for EXCLUSIVE clumps of the singles, \$50.00 and up for EXCLUSIVE clumps of the double and Japanese types. These will be plants which I have marked as being of interest, and if you want to pay for one of the very finest, I can offer a few which were of almost unbelievable beauty in their first year of bloom. A seedling peony does not always show its full value until it has bloomed five times. But it rarely goes backward from first bloom, usually makes a vast improvement. So while I cannot guarantee you what a seedling will be, the chances are that it will get better for you than it was for me.

An EXCLUSIVE PEONY will give individuality to your garden; you may give your peony any name you choose; you may divide it and have a "Friendship Peony", giving a root to each of several friends; you may give it entire to some friend, a gift of distinction; you may plant it as a special memorial on the grave of a departed loved one. Garden clubs may desire a new variety of high class for their members, or owners of large estates may desire some of the exclusive stocks for mass effects where I already have several clumps of a new variety.

This offering cannot take the form of a regular list. If you will tell me how much you wish to spend, what color you want, whether a tall or dwarf plant, I can then refer to my notes and select a plant which I think will give you a fair value for your money. I shall treat you

in absolute good faith; you will get absolutely ALL of any variety I send you. Having been a country banker for 22 years, I know the value of square dealing, and you may rest assured I want to satisfy you. Of course I cannot give you new kinds that would equal the best in commerce for \$10 or \$50, and my first estimate of a variety might unavoidably be wrong. But I can give you the benefit of 16 years critical experience with fine peonies, and a careful selection from seedling beds which utterly overwhelmed me with their beauty as they bloomed this year.

Your early order for an EXCLUSIVE variety will have my most careful attention.

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## Auten Varieties

The following eight varieties of my own origination have been named and are offered as being of possible interest to many. They have been carefully watched for from five to eight years in my own garden, and have been approved by many people as they saw them in the field or at shows. All have outstanding qualities which distinguish them from the general run of average new seedlings. At a moderate price they offer a chance for journeys in Peony Land over new paths, and if some of them win a permanent place in the affection of Peony lovers, I will be deeply gratified.

**CAMEO**—(1926) Formerly No. 42. A fragrant, delicate blush white, full double crown type of bloom, a very good keeper when cut. A modest flower which has for me always had an especial appeal..\$5.00 each

**CONSTANCE**—(1926) Formerly No. 33. A cupped, shell pink single, which will stay in ball shape for several days if cut unopened. Large and striking blooms if left on the plants. Stock very limited..\$5.00 each

**PRESTO**—(1925) A brilliant medium dark red single, large blooms of much better than average substance and keeping qualities. Foliage heavy and very dark green, stem good. Was very fine in my garden this year .....\$5.00 each

**MELODY**—(1925) Anemone type, though many would call it Japanese, the effect being more like the latter. Outer petals softest pale pink, tending toward lavender, center petals short and pale yellow, a beautiful combination. Delightful rose fragrance; plant habit good. I like this better every year.....\$5.00 each

**FANTASY**—(1925) Another of anemone type which gives a Japanese effect. Outer petals deep pink, center yellow. In some blooms one or two tufted petals the same color as the guards rise out of the center. Large size, slight fragrance, green carpels. This resembles the Japanese variety, Queen Alexandra, in general effect, but with me has excelled it in every way.. Only four roots for sale this year.....\$10.00 each

**ALASKA**—(1925) A very unusual shade of red, salmon I call it, with lighter shadings in center. Typical anemone bloom, delightfully rose fragrant, and it seems to meet the strictest commercial requirements as to substance and keeping qualities. Has attracted much attention both in the field and at exhibitions, and is entirely different in color from any peony now in commerce with which I am familiar. This is offered for those who desire something different in color and general effect. Stock extremely limited, and only four roots for sale this year.....\$20.00 each



“Mischief” Auten, 1925

**MISCHIEF**—(1925) Single, a lovely shade of pink, blooming later than most singles, which are usually early. Bloom beautifully proportioned, stem long and stiff; glorious as a cut flower, often lasting a full week. I have watched Mischief for eight years, and its enthusiastic reception by those who see it convinces me that it is one of the most valuable singles now on the market. It was reported to be one of the outstanding varieties last June at the Mid West Show at Des Moines. If I could show it generally my stock would not last one season.....\$5.00 each

**HUMORESQUE**—(1925) Late blooming, a sure opener, and stands up as well in sudden hot spells as any variety I have, erect habit, not extra large, recommended where hot weather spoils the late kinds. Rather flat bloom, higher in center, three center petals forming a hollow ball till flower is full blown. Light pink with unusual markings of red, and unusual form of flower. Honorable mention, American Peony Society Des Moines, 1924. Another variety that is “different.” Some might not like it, but many admire it very much .....\$10.00 each

## Standard Varieties

Large divisions, properly cut, with 3 to 5 or more eyes.

**ALBATRE**—A magnificent full double white, midseason.

The true variety, similar to but superior to Avalanche.  
\$1.00

**ADOLPHE ROUSSEAU**—A tall, early, semi-double very dark red, has won many prizes.....\$1.25

**AUREOLIN**—Mr. Shaylor's new pink Japanese variety, with yellow center. Plant habit extra good. When better known will be in great demand.....\$7.50

**CHESTINE GOWDY**—A striking silvery pink and cream cone shaped bloom, splashed crimson in center..\$3.00

**CLAIRE DUBOIS**—Late, full double, deep violet rose, a good keeper and a large bloom.....\$1.25

**COURONNE D'OR**—Very free blooming late flat white, golden stamens showing among the center petals..75c

**DARKNESS**—One of the very finest black red singles.  
\$2.00

**DESIRE**—A double pink originated by Mr. Brand.  
\$15.00

**DUC de WELLINGTON**—A refined cream white bomb type, no red markings.....75c

**DUCHESS de NEMOURS**—Early, full double immaculate white, extra.....75c

**EDULIS SUPERBA**—The indispensable rose fragrant full double Decoration Day deep pink.....75c

**EUGENE VERDIER**—Late, very stiff stemmed shell pink and cream.....\$1.75

**EUGENIE VERDIER**—Large, mid-season flat blush pink, very fine.....\$1.25

**FANNY CROSBY**—Outer petals pink, center petals forming a yellow bomb, sometimes showing white and pink also. Very fine, one of Mr. Brand's finest varieties.  
\$3.00

**FESTIVA MAXIMA**—Most popular of all peonies, very large, tall white, with red splashes in center. Early.  
75c

**GIGANTEA**—Enormous old rose full double, one of the most delightfully fragrant of all, long stems. Early.  
\$1.00

**GLOIRE de CHARLES GOMBAULT**—Pink and yellow, mixed, with red splashes. Very large bloom, long stems, extra for cutting, distinct.....\$1.00

**GRANDIFLORA**—Late flat shell pink, very large, indispensable .....\$1.00

**GROVER CLEVELAND**—Large full double, rich deep red. Not good in all climates or soils, but magnificent when right, and worthy a trial.....\$1.50

**KARL ROSEFIELD**—A brilliant mid-season dark red. Very vigorous, much in demand.....\$1.00

**KELWAY'S QUEEN**—Double mauve pink.....\$10.00

**LA ROSIERE**—Clusters of many cream white semi-double blooms, yellow stamens in center, weak stems, but should not be rejected on that account.....\$1.00

**LIVINGSTONE**—One of the finest late deep pinks, tall.  
\$1.25

**MADAME CROUSSE**—Mid-season full double rose fragrant white.....75c



- MADAME de VERNEVILLE**—Early rose fragrant white, nearly bomb type, pink flush in center, a refined flower. 75c
- MADAME EMILE GALLE**—An indispensable late, rose fragrant, full double light lavender pink of highest quality .....\$1.00
- MARIE CROUSSE**—Large warm light pink, bomb type, like incurved chrysanthemum. Midseason.....\$2.00
- MARIE LEMOINE**—Very late full double flat white, fragrant, stiff stems, distinct and magnificent.....\$1.00
- MARY BRAND**—Double deep red, midseason, very fine at its best.....\$2.00
- MIKADO**—The most popular Japanese variety, outer petals medium red, center filled with narrow irregular yellow petaloids.....\$2.00
- MONSIEUR DUPONT**—Large flat white, red splashes in center .....75c
- MONSIEUR JULES ELIE**—Large deep pink, with silvery cast, bomb type, like incurved chrysanthemum. One of the best. Early.....\$1.50
- MONS. MARTIN CAHUZAC**—Blackest red, double with some few stamens, foliage leathery. Very fine. Early mid-season .....\$2.25
- OFFICINALIS, RED JAPANESE**—This came to me under the name Anemone-flora, but I have a single red Officinalis under the same name and have seen Anemoneflora listed with the Chinensis varieties. This is a typical Jap., very early and brilliant red, center petaloids edged yellow.....\$2.00
- PHILIPPE RIVOIRE**—The world's finest dark red, full double, glowing, live color, beautiful form, rose fragrant. Late mid-season.....\$20.00
- PIERRE DU CHARTRE**—Large late flat, very delicate shell pink, fine.....\$1.25
- QUEEN EMMA**—Mid-season light red, free bloomer, fine for cutting.....\$1.25
- SOLANGE**—One of the world's finest. Late, large full double, color a rare combination of cream, pink and tea. This variety came from France terribly diseased, but I have been fortunate in curing it up, and offer very fine roots.....\$5.00
- SOUVENIR de l'EXPOSITION UNIVERSELLE**—A fine and valuable late light red, in spite of its long name and low price.....75c
- THERESE**—The world's finest light pink peony. Very large, free blooming, wonderful color and form. If you can have only one peony, get Therese. First cost is soon forgotten.....\$3.50
- UMBELLATA ROSEA**—Pink and yellow, perfect stem and plant habit. The earliest of all regular peonies, and indispensable in any collection, no matter how fine. My stock is from plants which my mother brought from her New Hampshire home to her new home-to-be, here in Illinois, at the time of her marriage, in 1869. 75c
- VENUS**—A popular medium pink variety, much used for cutting .....\$1.00

## Peony Seed

Peony seed should be planted in the fall, and should not be allowed to dry out, or it will not come up until the second spring. There is no way of telling beforehand whether you will get good peonies or worthless ones from seed, but it is the only way to get new varieties. They bloom usually the fifth year. Plant one inch deep, one or two inches apart. Wet the soil, and after planting cover the ground with one inch of lawn clippings or other light mulch to hold moisture. Water whenever soil underneath begins to look dry. Remove mulch EARLY in spring. Spray the plants once or twice the first summer with weak Bordeaux. Transplant second fall, one foot apart or more, in rows three or four feet apart.

I offer seed shipped moist, carefully picked to grow first year, and treated against blight. Not less than 100 seeds in an order. Order at once.

100 seeds from named doubles.....	\$2.00
100 seeds from named singles and Japs.....	3.00
100 seeds from seedlings.....	1.00

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## Croceum Lillies

Just about the easiest of all lillies to grow. In full sun, in good soil, I often get 40 blooms per stalk. Bright orange blooms, with darker spots, upright like a wine glass, a row of these makes a blaze of color just after the peonies are gone. Good also in shade, and will tolerate some lime. October shipment, plant 10 inches deep.

MAMMOTH BULBS....45c each.....	\$4.00 per dozen
SMALL BULBLETS....	\$3.50 for 50

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## Common Bearded Iris

I can offer a carefully selected assortment of iris, not labeled, 25 for \$2.00, 50 for \$3.50, 100 for \$6.00. This will include such varieties as Quaker Lady, Prosper Laugier, Wyomissing, etc., and no junk.

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## Seedling Siberian Iris

In 1927 I shall be able to offer clumps of new seedling Siberian irises, which have come in a great variety of colors and shapes, many of great charm. I have 1200 clumps in at least 200 different varieties. Write me if interested.